



“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Our children join us as “little acorns” and through the teaching and modelling of our vision, values and aims by all members of our school community, our children leave us as “mighty oaks”, equipped with the transferable skills to continue their journey of life-long learning.

Message from the Head

It has been a very busy fortnight in school with the children taking part in three separate curriculum enrichment workshops in this week alone – details and pictures included in the pages below! I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended our recent parents' evening. Your participation and engagement play a vital role in your child's education and our school community. A reminder, as we approach the half-term break, that the school is shut next Friday (25th October) for our INSET day.

Scooters and bicycles on school site

As part of our commitment to promoting fitness and a healthy active lifestyle, this week we were visited by Team Rubicon – the UK's leading provider of skateboard and scooter coaching. During their sessions, they spoke to the children about the importance of balancing the thrills of riding with riding safely. Building on this message, a reminder to our own school community that we love that children may be riding on bicycles or scooters to school! If they are, please ensure, however, that they are considerate of other users of our site. Please dismount before reaching the school gates and then **walk** devices/vehicles down the slope and around the narrow path before riding again on the main playground to the storage area.

Staffing Update

We will be saying farewell to Miss Hunt at the beginning of November – she will be sorely missed.

Parent Forum Group

I met with the Parent Forum Group last week. Please contact your class representative directly should you wish to have any feedback from the discussions held or are seeking responses to any issues or queries you may have raised to them. You will notice, at the request of the group, that I have included an overview of key dates for the whole year on the newsletter.

- Reception: Vacancy
- Year 1: Maddy Harvey-Howe
- Year 2: Kate Townsend
- Year 3: Vacancy
- Year 4: Eve Malatjie
- Year 5: Jess Carpenter
- Year 6: Becky Tyler

If you are interested in becoming a class representative, either filling one of the vacant positions or one of the posts currently held by another parent, please e-mail duchy@ventrus.org.uk

Celebrations

Please see details below of the new certificates that we will be awarding each week to celebrate successes in school.

- Our Values Champion certificate will be used to acknowledge the efforts of those children who have represented the school values through their actions.
- Our Learning Champion certificate will be used to recognise those children who have demonstrated passion and pride in their work, delivering a moment or moments of brilliance in a subject that have captured their teacher's and their peers' attention.

Values Champion				Learning Champion		
	11.10.24	18.10.24			11.10.24	18.10.24
Reception	Isabelle W	Jesse		Reception	Kip	Samuel
Year 1	George	Maci		Year 1	Tegan	Elsie
Year 2	Harrison	Svitlana		Year 2	Ava	Hope
Year 3	James Hay	Brodi		Year 3	Meadow	James Han
Year 4	Arlo	Noah		Year 4	Rohan	Tom
Year 5	Daisy-Rose	Barnaby		Year 5	Alexandros	Deacon
Year 6	Stanley	Archie		Year 6	Bailey	Tyler

We have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Year 1	Florence	For completing 11 park runs which equates to a half marathon!
Year 2	Helena	For completing the Book Quest by reading 100 books and coming 3 rd in the Bradninch Town Fair dog show
Year 3	Thomas	For Level 3 Learn to Swim award and an award for taking part in All Stars for Bradninch & Kentisbeare Cricket Club
Year 3	James Hay	For his medal for Bradninch & Kentisbeare Cricket Club
Year 3	Bonnie-Mae	Tiny Tot Twirl – 2 nd Best Improved 2024, Season 2024, 1 st for Military for Tiverton Town Majorettes
Year 4	Harriet	For Learn to Swim level 4 award
Year 5	Charlie A	For winning Young Photographer of the Year for Bradninch Nature
Year 6	Teddy	For completing the Book Quest by reading 50 books

Visitors and Experiences



On Tuesday 15th October, the children participated in a series of ball skills workshops delivered by a specialist sports coach.



On Thursday 17th October 2024, we were visited by one of the Devon Development Education Team's Cultural Champions (Nadia Lewis-Gorton). During her visit, Nadia provided the children with an insight into other cultures drawing on her own personal views and experiences. The messages she shared aligned with our own school value (equality) and our commitment to celebrate diversity, tackle discrimination and foster healthy relationships between people.



On Friday 18th October, we were visited by coaches from Team Rubicon (the UK's leading provider of skateboard and scooter coaching). The team delivered fun and engaging workshops that empowered children to develop their confidence, resilience and riding skills!

Our fortnight in photos

Reception			Year 1			Year 2		
								
In maths, we have been learning about patterns and created fruit kebab patterns for our afternoon snack.			We enjoyed a day of DT where we measured and mixed our ingredients and decorated and evaluated our biscuits.			In P.E, we have been using a range of equipment to practise different rolls, jumps and lifts.		
Year 3			Year 5			Year 6		
								
In RE, we have looked at the stories of Creation and the Fall. The children were asked to resist temptation and not look in the bowl.			We conducted experiments mixing two substances together to create a solution, working scientifically to notice the chemical reactions that occurred.			In history, we have been using a range of sources to find out about the past. As historians, we have been looking at how likely the risk of invasion was in 1939.		
Year 4								
								
Year 4 had a fantastic time visiting Escot, where they travelled back in time to the Anglo-Saxon period! The children participated in forge work, bread making, and woodwork, immersing themselves in the hands-on activities of the era. They even dressed up as Anglo-Saxons and fought in the name of King Athelstan! After these engaging activities, the children enjoyed a tour around the grounds, meeting a variety of animals including bears, wolves, and lynx. A big thank you to our parent helpers, Dr. Townsend and Miss Batchelor, for their support during the trip!								

Diary Dates

Please regularly check and review the Diary Dates section of the newsletter; we will be updating with details of further trips, events and activities as and when they are confirmed.

Term	Commences	Finishes
Autumn	5 th September 2024	20 th December 2024
Spring	6 th January 2025	4 th April 2025
Summer	22 nd April 2025	23 rd July 2025

25 th October	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
28 th October – 1 st November	Half Term Week
11 th November	PTFA Disco
4 th – 8 th November	Bikeability (Year 5)
6 th November	Y3 Trip to Vue Cinema (The Wild Robot)
10 th November	Remembrance Wreath Laying in Bradninch
11 th November – 15 th November	Bikeability (Year 6)
15 th November	Children In Need – theme TBC
20 th November	2025/26 Foundation Admissions Tours – 1.30pm
21 st November	2025/26 Foundation Admissions Tours – 9.15am
W/e 29 th November	Clubs end (Years 1 to 6)
4 th December	Vision Screening Check (EYFS)
6 th December	Christmas Jumper Day; Christmas Craft Morning-Parents (9.15am to 10.15am)
10 th December	Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Nativity (2.30pm)
11 th December	Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Nativity (3.45pm)
13 th December	Key Stage 2 Christingle at St Disen's Church (2pm)
16 th December	Reception Class Christmas Performance (3.45pm)
17 th December	Key Stage 2 Pantomime trip to Northcott Theatre
19 th December	School Christmas Lunch
20 th December	Last day of term
6 th January	Spring Term starts
8 th January	Key Stage 1 Pantomime travelling production
24 th January	Circus Skills Workshops (all classes)

7 th February	Parent Forum Meeting
17 th – 21 st February	Half-term
24 th February	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
27 th February	Y5 Trip to Resorts World Arena (Young Voices event)
5 th March	Parents' Evening: 3.50-6.30pm
6 th March	Parents' Evening: 3.50-6.30pm
6 th March	World Book Day
7 th – 16 th March	British Science Week (parent event TBC)
14 th March	Red Nose Day – Theme to be confirmed
28 th March	PTFA event (QUIZ)
22 nd April	Summer Term starts
22 nd April – 15 th July	Y4 swimming every Tuesday
5 th May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
12 th – 15 th May	Y6 SATS Week
23 rd May	The Duchy Mile
26 th – 30 th May	Half Term
2 nd June	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
13 th June	Parent Forum
19 th June	Sports Day
26 th June	Reserve Sports Day
3 rd July	Eco Club trip to Exeter Energy for Waste
11 th July	PTFA event (Summer Fayre)
15 th July	Y5/6 Afternoon Performance
16 th July	Y5/6 Evening Performance
17 th July	Reception Parents' Welcome Meeting (9.15am)
18 th July	Y6 Homework reward trip to Crealy
22 nd July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.30 am (Parents)
23 rd July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly (whole school)
23 rd July	Last day of term

In the Community

*St Disen's Church Bradninch
All Age Worship
Church for Everybody
Sundays 10.30 am.
Refreshments from 9.45 am in St Disen's Hall*

*Dates coming up:
November 3rd Jesus is the light of the world All Age Service
November 10th Remembrance Service 10.45 am at the War
Memorial then 11.15 am at Bradninch Baptist Church
November 17th All Age Café Church in St Disen's Hall 10.15 am
for 10.30 am with refreshments
December 1st Advent All Age Service
December 24th Donkey Service 6 pm*

*FUN FRESH THOUGHT PROVOKING
FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES
PRAYER WORSHIP*